

**Press
Release**
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**IRR's *South Africa Survey* launches
in Johannesburg today**

A special edition of the *South Africa Survey* in honour of Nelson Mandela was launched by the South African Institute of Race Relations (IRR) in Johannesburg today.

The *Survey* is the annual yearbook on all social, economic, and political aspects of South Africa that the IRR has been publishing since 1946. In his celebrated "I am prepared to die" speech during his trial in 1964, Mr Mandela quoted figures from the *Survey* about racially discriminatory spending on school education.

The "Mandela Commemorative Edition" of the *Survey* brings the total number of pages across 61 editions since the first one to 31 983.

John Kane-Berman, who has been editor-in-chief of the *Survey* since 1983, said that the collected work constituted "the story of the rise and fall of apartheid" told largely through statistics.

"Having first been published in 1946, the *Survey* outlived the National Party, and will no doubt outlive the current ruling party as well," said Kane Berman, who retires as CEO of the IRR at the end of this month.

"Year in and year out, the *Survey* has enabled South Africans to hold a mirror up to their society, warts and all. It played a key part in promoting transparency and in ensuring that we remain an open society. We rake in and process information from a vast array of sources, official and unofficial, and it has always been most gratifying that few organisations have ever refused to supply us," Kane-Berman said.

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